

money for a downpayment on a home, but will also deter crime. Criminals will be far less likely to commit an act of violence if they know a police officer lives right next door. Finally, this gives control to local officials, allowing mayors to designate the areas they believe need the most protection.

My second provision expands on the Section 8 homeownership rule to make it more accessible to persons with disabilities. This provision provides incentives for employment and homeownership for the most underserved group of homeowners in the country. Nationally unemployment rates among the disabled of working age exceed 70 percent and homeownership rates at less than 5 percent.

Two of the biggest barriers to homeownership for persons with disabilities are affordability and accessibility. It costs \$20–\$40 thousand to customize a home for some disabled individuals. This pilot program addresses these problems by allowing disabled families making up to 100 percent of the area median income to qualify to use their Section 8 voucher for homeownership. The benefit may continue for the entire term of the mortgage provided they remain eligible for such assistance. It also requires one or more members of the family to have achieved employment and participation in a homeownership counseling program.

While I am very pleased with the outcome of the negotiations on S. 1452, I am concerned at the omission of one provision in particular. Section 102 of H.R. 1776 requires the federal government to perform a housing impact analysis before it issues new regulations. This important provision would give the private sector an opportunity to see the impacts on housing before a rule is implemented. Hopefully, this would result in less costly regulations that impede homeownership. While it was omitted from the final version we considered today, I am hopeful we can come back to this next year and pass it into law.

S. 1452 will help so many Americans achieve the dream of homeownership. I am pleased at the House's actions, and am hopeful that the other body will quickly take up and pass this extremely important legislation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2000*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on October 24, 2000, I missed rollcall votes 541, 542 and 543. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all three votes.

#### HONORING DR. ROBIN BEACH

#### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2000*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize a remarkable member of the medical community, Dr. Robin Beach. Her contributions to the citizens of Colorado are immeasurable and deserve the recognition of this body. I would at this time like

to pay tribute to a truly inspirational and compassionate human being.

Robin began her distinguished career in medicine with an education almost as impressive as her work in medicine. She received her undergraduate degree in Zoology from Duke University graduating with distinction. Robin then went on to receive her M.D. from Duke and her M.P.H. from the University of California at Berkeley. This impressive educational background easily prepared her to become the expert in Pediatrics she is today.

Robin's illustrious career in pediatrics began at the University of Colorado Medical Center where she completed her residency. She then went on to work for the University Health Services in Boulder, Colorado where she served as Chief of Staff and Chief of the Medical Services. Her expert knowledge of medicine along with her natural ability to lead has propelled her into leadership roles for many different organizations within the medical community. She has served the Denver Health Authority in the capacities, of assistant director of Community Health Services, and Director of the Westside Medical Center, the Adolescent Ambulatory Services, and the Westside Teen Clinic.

Robin's career has been one of great distinction and has been full of many immeasurable contributions to her community. But it is her recent academic appointment that may rank above all when it comes to her accomplishments. She is now able to utilize her advanced knowledge of pediatric medicine to educate future doctors. She is currently a professor of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. In addition to this great honor she has also received a number of awards for her work in the medical community, the Kathleen Ann Mullen Memorial Award and the Adele Dellenbaugh Hofmann Award both for her work with adolescent medicine.

Robin is a truly remarkable human being and her contributions, not only to her community but also to the field of Pediatrics, are unparalleled. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the State of Colorado and the US Congress I would like to commend Dr. Beach on her many accomplishments and wish her the very best as she continues to educate Colorado's future doctors in the field of Pediatrics.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2000*

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, on October 24, 2000 the House debated and voted on H. Res. 634, "Providing for the consideration of H.R. 4656, Lake Tahoe Basin School Site Land Conveyance Act", H. Con. Res. 414, "Relating to the Reestablishment of Representative Government in Afghanistan", and H.R. 4271, the "National Science Education Act." Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 634, (roll call vote number 541) "aye" on H. Con. Res. 414 (roll call vote number 542), and "aye" on H.R. 4271 (roll call vote number 543).

HONORING A FORGOTTEN HERO,  
SEAMAN ARTHUR REID, JR.

#### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2000*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, more than five decades have passed since a massive explosion at the Port Chicago naval base in California claimed the life of a courageous young Seaman, Arthur Reid, Jr. and 319 other servicemen, mostly African Americans. Nearly 400 more were wounded in the incident.

On October 26, 2000, I will have the privilege of presenting to Seaman Reid's sister, Margaret Reid Severin, three long overdue military awards in his behalf—the American Campaign Medal, the Gold Star Lapel Button, and the World War II Victory Medal. Mrs. Severin was only 13 at the time she lost her brother, but she has faithfully honored his memory ever since, despite the fact that the Navy provided very little information or support following the tragic loss of his life.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to help secure Seaman Reid's service records from the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, which confirmed his meritorious military record recommending him for leadership.

It was through the efforts and outstanding research of Mrs. Severin's coworker, Ms. Sheri Humphrey, that the story of Seaman Reid came to light. Ms. Humphrey worked diligently to track down information from veterans' files which revealed the plight of Seaman Reid and his fellow servicemen at Port Chicago.

The Port Chicago tragedy has been described as "America's Dark Secret" because of the circumstances surrounding the disaster. It was on the evening of July 17th, 1944, during World War II, that the munitions blast occurred. In an era of a segregated military, enlisted African Americans were relegated to duties separate from those of their white counterparts. Instead of obtaining ship duty, they were assigned to load ammunition and explosives on ships at port without the benefit of proper training for this potentially dangerous responsibility. After the terrible tragedy, African American servicemen still suffering from the trauma of the explosion were ordered back to work handling ammunition at another location. At that point, 258 of them refused that specific assignment, saying they would take any other duty but that one in view of their experience. At a racially charged court martial trial, 208 servicemen were given bad conduct discharges and denied three months' pay. Another 50 were convicted of mutiny, which could have resulted in the death penalty. Sentences of 8 and 15 years at hard labor were meted out, but eventually clemency was granted at the conclusion of the war.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring a true World War II hero, Seaman Arthur Reid, Jr., and in expressing to his sister Margaret Reid Severin our profound appreciation for his ultimate sacrifice for our country.